

II. REMARKS

In response to the Examiner's amendment given in the Notice of Allowance mailed April 20, 2009, Applicant respectfully files this amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. Applicant notes that the Examiner's amendment is incorrect because the claim language presented by the Examiner, "thus producing the casted alloy as claimed in claim..." does not properly reflect the method claims as claimed in the present application. Applicant notes that this amendment shares a substantially same goal as the Examiner's amendment that all claims would be allowable if claims 26, 134, 136 and 138 are amended.

With this amendment, claims 26, 27 and 134-139 have been cancelled without prejudice and new claims 141-148 have been added. According to the telephone interview with Applicant's Counsel held April 8, 2009, all claims were considered to contain allowable subject matter. Specifically, Examiner Cohen indicated that method claims 26, 134, 136 and 138 would be allowed if amended to contain the limitations of the alloy claims to which they respectively refer. Thus, claims 26, 27 and 134-139 have been redrafted as new claims 141-148.

Specifically, new independent claim 141 incorporates subject matter from previous claims 1 and 26, and corresponds to previous method claim 26 rewritten in independent form. New independent claim 143 incorporates subject matter from previous claims 1, 3 and 134, and corresponds to previous method claim 134 rewritten in independent form. New independent claim 145 incorporates subject matter from previous claims 1, 5 and 136, and corresponds to previous method claim 136 rewritten in independent form. New independent claim 147 incorporates subject matter from previous claims 1, 7 and 138, and corresponds to previous method claim 138 rewritten in independent form. New claims 142, 144, 146, and 148 depend on new independent claims 141, 143, 145, and 147, respectively.

No new matter has been added by the present amendment. No claim has been narrowed for any reason related to patentability. All claims are allowable for the reasons of record.


III. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-captioned application is in condition for allowance and a prompt notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

The below-signed attorney for Applicant welcomes any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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